

Message Text

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61

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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R 101326Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6914

USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMCONSUL MUNICH

USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR RO

SUBJECT: ROMANIAN LINE ON HAIG CONTROVERSY

1. ROMANIAN ATTENTION TO CONTROVERSY OVER HAIG STATEMENT OPPOSING COMMUNIST PARTICIPATION IN WEST EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS HAS TAKEN FORM OF MINI-CAMPAIGN IN SCINTEIA REPLAYING PROTESTS OF WESTERN SOCIALIST AND COMMUNISTS ALLEGING U.S. INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS.

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2. SCINTEIA BACK-PAGE ITEMS RECEIVED COMMENTS FROM FRANCE (MARCH

6), CUNHAL (MARCH 7), BELGIAN SOCIALISTS (MARCH 9) AND ITALIANS (MARCH 10). ROMANIAN BOTTOM-LINE COMMENT MARCH 10 BY COMMENTATOR R. BOGDAN IS: INTERFERENCE IN OTHERS' AFFAIRS IS ANACHRONISM, INCOMPATIBLE WITH NORMAL INTER-STATE RELATIONS.

3. COMMENT: ROMANIANS SEEM BENT ON USING EVENT TO UNDERLINE (A) UPSURGE OF POPULAR WESTERN SUPPORT FOR OFT-REITERATED ROMANIAN SOVEREIGNTY PRINCIPLES AS WELL AS (B) DESIRABILITY OF WESTERN SOCIALIST-COMMUNIST RECONCILIATION. WITH US, ROMANIAN OFFICIALS HAVE BECOME LESS RELUCTANT TO CRITICIZE SOFTLY BUT OPENLY USG'S HARD LINE AGAINST WESTERN CP'S, AND WE EXPECT TO SEE MORE REFLECTION OF THIS PUBLICLY AS TIME GOES ON. FOR EXAMPLE, RCP HISTORIAN AND CC FULL MEMBER I. POPESCU-PUTURI OPINED TO AMBASSADOR THAT USG, FROM RCP'S POINT OF VIEW, WAS MAKING FUNDAMENTAL MISTAKE -- UNCHARACTERISTIC OF, FOR EXAMPLE, SECRETARY'S TOUCH IN MIDDLE EAST -- IN NOT COMING TO TERMS WITH NON-SOVIET INDEPENDENT COMMUNISM, PARTICULARLY IN ITALY. COMPLAINT WAS COUCHED MORE IN SORROW THAN ANGER THAT USG HAS DISAGREED SO DIRECTLY WITH FUNDAMENTAL ROMANIAN POLICY COMMITMENT TO BACK ALMOST ANY NON-OR ANTI-SOVIET LEFTIST HORSE.

4. FOR USIA/IPS, MUNICH OR BONN: WOULD APPRECIATE TEXT OF HAIG'S ACTUAL REMARKS ASAP.
BARNES

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